

# PEACE NEWS

For War-Resistance and World-Community

No. 709

January 27, 1950

THREEPENCE

## INDIA'S PACIFIST PRESIDENT

### Atlantic Pact Debate

Peace through arms—BLACKBURN  
Peace through trade—ZILLIACUS

"That the Atlantic Treaty is inconsistent with the United Nations Charter and with the preservation of world peace."

No vote was taken when this motion was debated before a large and enthusiastic audience in the Central hall, Westminster, on Jan. 23, under the auspices of the National Peace Council. Dr. Alex Wood (Chairman of Peace News Ltd.) suggested from the Chair that it might be wise to consider this issue, which was fundamentally whether we should negotiate with Russia from weakness or from strength—i.e. armed strength.

Defending the motion, Mr. Zilliacus, MP, pointed out that the Pact was a flagrant breach of the UN Charter, which pledged members to settle all differences without resort to force and forbade them to enter into regional agreements to deal with threats of aggression without authorisation of the Security Council.

#### How Pact defeats UN Charter

But the Atlantic Pact claimed the right to go to war without that vital provision. It would now be equally possible for the USSR and China to enter into a similar pact in the East. Both sides could claim they were securing the peace, whilst entering upon the deadliest arms race in history.

The Russian possession of the atom-bomb robbed us of any possible military advantage, and war hysteria merely encouraged conditions in which Communism was bound to spread.

Capt. Raymond Blackburn, MP, in opposing the motion, agreed that the Security Council must have supreme authority. In 1945, he said, the Pact would have been a breach of the Charter.

But, before the Pact was signed, the Charter had already been torn up by the Soviet Union. We had done everything to conciliate them, and the responsibility for the failure of the United Nations rested with the Communists. It was the spirit of the Charter, rather than the letter, that he wanted to defend.

There was not a single Parliamentary opposition left in Eastern Europe: Buchenwald was still being used by the Russians as a concentration camp. When had the U.S. tried to impose their will on other countries; despite their opposition to Communism, they had lent us large amounts of money. But in Bulgaria, even a proved Communist like Kostov—who had himself denounced as a "Fascist beast" and executed. Neither Fascism nor Communism had ever won a single free election.

#### Call Big-three conference

It was not enough, felt this speaker, merely to wish for Democracy and Peace; we had to back them with a force that could not be challenged. Whilst we had this superiority, we should still bargain for an agreement with Russia.

On the positive side, he would suggest a secret top-level conference between Truman, Attlee and Stalin, with an offer of economic help to Russia, in return for international control of atomic energy and a degree of freedom in Eastern Europe.

Our stand was a moral one; freedom, peace, was indivisible, and we were all involved in mankind. The only sure way to end war was universal disarmament with international inspection.

In summing up, Mr. Zilliacus suggested an alternative, constructive policy: immediate halving of the arms budget; ending the arms race; more trade with Eastern Europe. "Let us come to terms with both the Americans and the Russians"—he concluded—"without a military alliance with either."

### Broadcasts Peace Appeal

DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD, speaking on Christmas Eve from Gandhi's hut at Sevagram, made a world broadcast in the form of a pacifist appeal.

Dr. Prasad was a friend, disciple and fellow-worker of Gandhi in the Mahatma's campaign for Indian Independence, as well as a leading teacher of Gandhi's pacifist doctrines. A short account of his career and remarkable personality will be found below.

Here is a brief outline of Dr. Prasad's broadcast:

ABOUT one hundred pacifists from 34 countries have been meeting in India and discussing the great problem of establishing world peace. Their appeal is to the common man and woman of the world to search for the causes which breed war and to remove them.

These causes are rooted in the desires and ambitions of individuals and nations, and derive their sustenance from the conflict which arises from their non-fulfilment on account of the resistance of similar desires and ambitions in others.

#### War's legacy of hate

In modern times, achievements of men in the conquest of nature have served only to whet their ambition and pour oil on its flames. Two wars within a generation, each fought with the object of ending wars, succeeded only in leaving a legacy of hate and another war in the making.

Gandhi saw the futility of "trying to wash mud with mud" as the Indian saying goes—that is, trying to end war by war. He tried to tackle it at its roots by making the individual a fit instrument of peace, simplifying his life, spreading and securing confidence and love all round.

#### Create a new environment

To create that atmosphere, our lives must be remodelled. Life is an integral whole and man cannot achieve peace while living a life which breeds war.

Environment undoubtedly influences man, but man can change his environment—can, in fact, create it, if he follows that path of non-violence taught by the Hindu seers of old and by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount.

#### WOMEN TELL CANDIDATES:

### Consult us on Foreign Policy

THE British Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has drawn up a set of questions to be submitted by their members to Parliamentary candidates.

The questions range from Conscription (leading the nation to assume that war is inevitable and imminent) to the status of women with special reference to more appointments of women to policy-making; positions in the international field, and include such subjects as the setting up of a World Food Authority with executive powers as advocated by Lord Boyd Orr, international control of atomic energy, and refugees.

Local branches are advised to select two or three questions and to ask candidates to receive deputations to discuss the questions with them. It is suggested that notes of the replies, whether yes or no, should be sent to the local Press, thus focussing attention on these very important matters throughout the country.

Copies are available from 104 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

### 2000 YOUNG SWEDES TO GO ON PEACE TOURS

According to the Swedish monthly paper "Freden" over 2,000 young Swedes will be travelling abroad this summer under the auspices of the pacifist youth association "Ungdommens Fredsforbund." A quarter of the number will be going to Finland, where arrangements have already been made for them to stay with Swedish-speaking families in the region of Helsinki and Abo. The Finnish families, which were selected through the school authorities, will be paying all the expenses of their young Swedish guests. Parties will also be going to England, France, Austria and Italy.

"Ungdommens Fredsforbund" is in addition organising a World Youth Conference in Varberg, on the west coast of Sweden, during the summer, and invitations have been sent to pacifist youth organisations in over 20 countries.

### THE GENERAL ELECTION East Woolwich 'No-more-war' team gets to work

IF we can canvass every house in East Woolwich with the pacifist message, I believe we can win," Frank Hancock, "No-more-war" candidate told a meeting of 26 of his workers last week.

The response by those voters already canvassed and the promise of votes so far received were extremely encouraging even when viewed with the necessary caution, he added.

Local members of the Peace Pledge Union, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Crusade for World Government and Society of Friends have formed an enthusiastic and hardworking band of volunteers. The work of envelope addressing has been allocated but there is an urgent need still for more leaflet distributors and canvassers.

Volunteers who can undertake the latter work are asked to report to the Committee Rooms at 19 Anglesea Road, Woolwich (Near Woolwich Arsenal Station), which will be open each weekday from 2 p.m.

Accommodation is being found in the vicinity for volunteers able to stay in the Borough for the duration of the campaign or for weekends.

Public meetings so far arranged include two in the Town Hall, on Feb. 9 and 20 at 7.30 p.m. It is expected that five other meetings will be held in local schools.

### LIBERAL SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL UNION

EIGHTY-TWO candidates have so far given affirmative answers to one or both of the following questions submitted to 600 candidates by Federal Union:

1. If you are returned to Parliament, will you vote for Britain joining a European Federation provided the other countries of the Commonwealth agree to her doing so?
2. Do you believe that the nations of the world cannot live permanently in peace so long as they retain full sovereignty, and if you are returned to Parliament, will you therefore do all you can to assist in the earliest possible achievement of World Federal Government?

Replies in the affirmative to both questions came from 48 Liberals, 20 Labour, 3 Conservative, 1 Conservative and Liberal, and 1 Independent candidates. "Yes" to the first question only, came from 3 Liberal, 1 Labour and 1 Conservative; 1 Liberal and 3 Labour said "Yes" to question two only.

## Dr. Rajendra Prasad PRESIDENT OF INDIA IS VICE-PRESIDENT OF WAR RESISTERS' INTERNATIONAL

BORN in Bihar in 1884, Dr. Rajendra Prasad is one of the most outstanding and exemplary personalities in the public life of the modern world.

After a distinguished scholastic career he was called to the Bar in 1911. Through cases in which he was briefed, however, he became aware of the injustices and exploitation to which the peasants of Bihar were subjected by the British.

#### Attacked by Austrian Fascists

In 1917, therefore, Gandhi, instituting an inquiry into this exploitation in defiance of the British authorities, enlisted Prasad's co-operation. When, during the first Civil Disobedience Campaign, Gandhi called on Indians to boycott British law courts, Dr. Prasad, though by then a noted lawyer, abandoned his practice and devoted his talents to organising an Indian education system in his Province.

Carrying on Gandhi's work during the latter's imprisonment, he made contact

with the War Resisters' International (of which he is now Vice-president), and attended the 1928 WRI Conference in Austria. While addressing an Austrian WRI meeting, he was attacked by members of the "Heimwehr" (Fascists), and, refusing to retaliate, was carried out half-conscious.

Back in India he was several times imprisoned for his part in the struggle for Indian independence. Later, he became one of India's "Big Three," that is, the three members of the Parliamentary Subcommittee controlling Congress Ministries in the Provinces. But rather than promise co-operation with the British war effort in return for the promise of Indian Independence, he resigned in 1942.

He was Minister of Food in India's first Cabinet, but despite conspicuous success in that post he has relinquished it to devote himself more fully to Gandhi's programme.

Gentle, serene and sympathetic, he has been described as "combining the poise of an Indian saint with the rational outlook and purposive activity of a Western scientist."

EIGHT PAGES  
NEXT WEEK

Details of "No Conscription Week" issue appear in "Up and Doing" page 3.



## PEACE NEWS

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## FOREIGN POLICY

**A** STRANGE feature of the Election is the absence of foreign politics.

It is as if Britain lived in a world of its own and there were no foreigners worth noticing.

Insularity is, of course, a traditional British trait. But it has not normally caused the Englishman to ignore foreigners altogether. He has in fact spent quite a lot of time and energy in putting them right; and whether or not he was interested in them personally he was always acutely interested in their markets.

For the purpose of the Election, however, even that tenuous connection is broken off. Britain becomes a little isle set in an otherwise empty sea.

The more informed of the electors know, at the back of their minds, that there is a thing called Foreign Policy. But they do not appear to think it is any of their business—nor their candidate's.

The apparent general assumption is that Britain's relations with other countries are determined by a purely automatic process which is beyond the control of Parliament, like the weather; or else by specialised, technical rules which bear no relation to general principles, like the postal service or the upkeep of roads.

Since Britain has for two centuries been more dependent than most countries upon the outside world for general conditions and standards of living, this attitude would be strangely unrealistic at any time. Today it is fantastic. Britain's dependence on foreign relations have reached a point of acute urgency unimaginable before.

Far more than ever dependent on external relations for its economic condition, Britain is in a military sense as helpless as Belgium in 1914.

One would have thought, therefore, that in this Election Foreign Policy would have been a major issue. On the contrary it is practically ignored except by a small number of pacifists, federal unionists and world government advocates who have enough sense of political reality to put it first.

It is in any case a sign of a curious lack of political education that people can regard home affairs and foreign affairs as separable.

But the worst element in this situation is not the indifference of the people to their dependence on the outside world; it is the loss of an historic opportunity.

A gesture of confidence and goodwill on the part of Britain at this juncture might dispel the clouds of fear and anxiety which are steadily darkening the world without any sign of relief. That opportunity has passed. The outside world is not officially recognised by any party.

This limitation of outlook is not unprecedented. It reminds us of the mice who called a public meeting under the kitchen table for the purpose of electing a committee to manage the affairs of the larder.

And the cat sat on the hearthrug, ready to give the casting vote.

# Of Cabbages and other things

A Commentary by ROY SHERWOOD

**U**NTIL the General Election is over, the number of people in this country who spare any thought for world affairs will be even smaller than usual. It will in fact move in inverse ratio to the number of those in other countries manifesting a growing interest in the affairs of the United Kingdom, as Feb. 23 comes nearer.

With a highly important general election coming on, the time seems ill-chosen to me for a discussion whether pacifism implies vegetarianism. Even non-vegetarian supporters of pacifism are hard enough to find. If there is an element of pious fraud about non-disclosing to the neophyte-pacifist that his ultimate logical destination is abhorrence of flesh-eating, I am all in favour of committing that fraud.

Although my own pacifism is of a sufficiently inferior kind to consider the whole issue irrelevant, and to leave me in distant hopes of an increase in the meat ration, I am a theoretical admirer of vegetarianism; and have practised it, and liked it, while living in a warmer climate than England's.

But the reality of a non-warring world seems to me quite difficult enough of attainment, without cutting the ground from under our own feet by further narrowing the platform from which we are trying to persuade the world.

This is one of those points where the man-in-the-street asks whether there is anything practical about pacifism. In my humble opinion, you could create a dozen warless worlds in the time it will take you to create one of total meat-abstainers.

### The quickening pace

**I**N the meantime, the situation in Hong-Kong is becoming more awkward, and the news from the Gold Coast shows that the struggle for independence from western tutelage that is nearing its end in the Far East is about to begin in Africa.

The "dark continent" appears unwilling to look upon itself as quite as backward as its various protectors consider it. In one respect it is ahead of us: in appre-

ciation of the new factor which entered international affairs a quarter of a century ago, with the coming of the dictators. The factor in question is speed in developments. Coming by instinct to revolutionaries and "have-nots," it is something that seems to leave most of our statesmen at a loss.

### —to freedom, and elsewhere

**F**ORTY years ago, the Kaiser kept talking of Germany's "place in the sun." Among us here, there were those who admitted that claim, and others who opposed it. But not even the Kaiser himself was thinking in time-values and terms that would have revolutionised the whole world in a matter of a few years. He, his subjects and everybody else were all still thinking in generations and in changes which, today, would be considered almost minor. And, partly because the Germans lost that war—which confirmed the supremacy of those whose power was of old standing and whose instincts were for a return to the past—and partly also because the new techniques had not then been invented, Lenin's, Mussolini's and Hitler's claims were still interpreted in the old time-values when they were openly proclaimed.

### Old ladies v. fidgets

**N**O one who has ever heard of it is likely to forget the quaint wording of the complaint voiced by an old lady about Hitler in the course of a political meeting soon after his march into Austria. Her grievance was not against his aims. It was that "he was such a restless fidget." And it well epitomises the clash between the minds of those who stand for the established order and the new technique of never allowing them the comfort of recovering their breath after any particular international bout before plunging into the next one.

### Militarism frightens itself

**T**ODAY, we see the same speedy methods at work on behalf of a dogma of infinitely more powerful appeal than anything Mussolini or Hitler could produce. With a psychological make-up determined by their past experiences and the narrowness of their territories, Mussolini and Hitler had to deprive themselves of all chance of universal appeal by becoming nationalistic. Communism, on the contrary, is in its very nature world-wide, and there is probably no spot on earth where it is incapable of finding support.

# A NON-VIOLENT SOCIAL ORDER

By A. J. MUSTE

Secretary of the American  
Fellowship of Reconciliation

**T**HE social order for which we strive has the following basic characteristics:

1. It will give first consideration to the development and expression of human personality and to the satisfaction of the natural and spiritual needs of human communities, rather than to the amassing of material goods or power.

2. It will aim at organising men so far as possible in comparatively small and largely self-sufficient social units, widely spread out so that everyone may be in daily contact with nature.

3. New industrial techniques will be sought to bring about decentralisation in most industries, so that responsibility and creative opportunity may be enjoyed by all. Basic industries, mines, and workshops will be socialised and control vested in the workers and technicians directly concerned rather than in the hands of private monopoly or bureaucratic state machinery.

4. A reasonably balanced economy; trade will consist of exchanging surpluses of the commodities which communities, regions, or nations are unable to produce for themselves.

5. Political organisation will largely develop naturally with the local and regional economy. There will, therefore, be no restrictions on liberty of speech, Press, association and religion, nor any racial discrimination.

6. First loyalty will be to the world-community. Sovereign nation-states, such as we know today, largely devoted to the waging of the power-struggle and to war, will cease to exist. Political, economic and cultural world-organisations such as may be needed will be developed with the needs of human beings, regardless of locality, race or nationality, in mind. We reject any concept of an armed world or super-state.

There are two fundamental and complementary ways in which Peace Army volunteers or Satyagrahis work for the non-violent revolution. First, by "constructive work," i.e., by promoting at once, wherever possible, the organisation of communities on a natural, co-operative basis for self-sufficiency and healthy inter-dependence and by supporting and extending measures taken in our respective countries in this direction. Secondly, by resistance to the forces of exploitation, oppression and war, wherever we may encounter them.

Means which may be used in this "transfer of power" include:

(1) Democratic legislative measures, where these are available, in order, e.g., to socialise basic industries or restore the land to those who will use it;

(2) The development of communal and co-operative enterprises which will serve to provide economic security to those who build them and will give them experience

"We must strive for social revolution... a non-violent one," said the author at the conclusion of the first part of his draft programme for Non-violent units last week. Below is an abridgement of his views on the form a Non-violent, Non-exploiting social order should take and the commitments involved.

in building a brotherly social order, of which these enterprises will be illustrations;

(3) Achievement by workers of increasing control over the industries in which they work and taking over the workshops non-violently, adequate preparations having been made;

(4) Refusal of the masses to serve in any armed forces or to engage in war.

Non-violent revolutionists cannot put off until some moment in time when "the revolution" has taken place, the living of a life and the building of a society based on Truth and Non-violence. They must begin at once to revolutionise their own lives.

### OUR OWN COMMITMENTS

More specifically, this involves the following commitments:

1. A non-violent revolution changes external relationships and arrangements but it is primarily an inner revolution, a rebirth of man. We recognise, therefore, that first of all the inner life of each of us must conform more and more to Truth and Non-violence. Conscious of our unworthiness and weakness and of our need of inner discipline, each of us pledges himself to continue to institute a plan for regular private meditation or prayer, and also wherever possible to establish disciplined cells for corporate meditation or prayer, study, and action.

2. Non-attachment to possessions, especially those which involve control over the livelihood of others. This means simplifying our lives, reducing our personal needs, and recognising our obligations to share our possessions if needed with each other and with our fellow human beings.

3. Participation in the economic and political struggles of workers, farmers, and racial groups subjected to discrimination, making clear that we are identified in spirit with the oppressed and underprivileged, and striving by teaching and example to win them to the practice of non-violence.

4. Each of us will work in his or her own country to bring about understanding and good relations first of all with the country regarded as its most dangerous enemy. We shall do all in our power to institute or

The Anti-Communists' defence against it would be easier if their own hands were cleaner, and their adaptability to the new technique greater. But they are still thinking in terms of military power, and have pushed their thought and science so far in that direction that, now with the arrival of the uranium-hydrogen bomb, they have frightened even themselves. Unfortunately, fright is not a wise counsellor, so that the need to expose the futility of war is greater than ever.

### Need for International-mindedness

**W**ITHIN our anti-Communist western grouping we shall, in the near future, have to face a major point of difficulty that is likely to test American understanding pretty severely.

In an address at Amherst College, Massachusetts, Mr. Hoffman, the ECA chief, has had occasion to explain that the USA will have to modify its tariffs in such a way as to allow an additional 2,500 million dollars' worth of European goods to come into the country annually. Otherwise, he said, European recovery would remain incomplete, and all the American money spent on it so far would be wasted.

That explanation was not made in a vacuum, but timed to provide a necessary answer to a growing movement of resistance on the part of certain American business interests already dissatisfied with the present competition offered to their goods by imports from Europe.

It is a clear case of urgently needed international adjustment for the common good. But, unfortunately, it is one that has not the advantage of being concerned with non-competitive merchandise; and anyone in America who, for reasons of his own business interests, does not like it, will find it easy to work himself into a state of fury for having to pay taxes the proceeds of which go towards help for Europe, at the same time as the European beneficiary increases his competition.

A good deal of international-mindedness will thus be needed on the part of Americans if things are to go smoothly. Expecting that of others, it does not seem inappropriate for us to make a determined effort to practise it ourselves.

A big enough dose of it usually leads to pacifism, at least of the more elementary kind.

greatly expand in each country the campaign to mobilize the will of the people to resist war and to bring influence to bear upon the government to abandon war unconditionally, and to dismantle its military establishment as rapidly as possible.

5. As it is the moral responsibility of each nation to renounce war and violence, even if others are not yet prepared to follow, so we recognise that it is our individual responsibility to do so, even though others may not be ready to take the same step. Our first loyalty is not to our national state or any other limited grouping but to the one human family or world-community. We declare ourselves, therefore, to be World Citizens, fully prepared to be deprived of or renounce our nationality if that should be required in order to maintain our supreme loyalty to the world community.

We refuse to bear arms; render any service in the armed forces of any nation; submit to military training or assist in enforcing it on others, or to work on the production or distribution of war materials.

The need of effective and total resistance to war and conscription in the Atomic Age is so great and urgent that Civil Disobedience to these evils is for us not only legitimate but necessary and imperative.

6. Recognising that those who renounce war and violence are under obligation to do their utmost to demonstrate the effectiveness of love and non-violence, we undertake to carry out non-violent actions in striving to overcome racial segregation, religious intolerance, and exploitation and oppression of individuals and groups in our respective countries.

## A PLEASANT SURPRISE

**T**HE last thing which Vera Brittain said to me as I saw her off to India from the Air Terminal was, "Please keep on raising funds in my absence and give me a pleasant surprise on my return." Since then Vera Brittain has been extremely busy serving the cause of pacifism at the World Pacifist Meeting. There is no way in which we could show our appreciation of all she does than by being able to give her a pleasant surprise as she suggested. We have a month before she returns at the end of February. I suggest that we should try to raise not less than £150 for Headquarters Fund to give to her on her return. Will you please help?

STUART MORRIS,

General Secretary.

Amount received since Jan. 1: £7 11s. 4d.

Our aim for 1950: £600.

Donations to the fund should be sent marked "Headquarters Fund," to the Treasurer at Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., W.C.1

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# Bridgeton Clackmannan Newcastle

**ROBERT DUNCAN**, 34-year-old CO of World War II and Peace Pledge Union member is contesting the Bridgeton division of Glasgow as an Independent Labour Party candidate. Opposing him will be Communist, Conservative, Independent and Labour candidates.

It is always pleasing to listen to a good radio voice and J. B. Priestley's is no exception, but as I listened to his recent political broadcast he seemed to widen even further the gap between Labour policy and Socialist thought.

That ever widening gap is one of the reasons why the ILP has a candidate in the Bridgeton Division.

We are concerned that while two major powers pursue a policy which will inevitably lead to war, Britain is more interested in preparing for war than in working for peace.

A policy which demands conscription and an £800 million annual expenditure in place of peace and plenty.

We wish to operate a Socialist economy as an alternative to the Capitalist economy of Tory and Labour whose reforms are based on the continuance of Capitalism.

We are working for the establishment of common ownership which will end the class distinction and privilege so dear to our political opponents.

We believe that Socialism will be established only by a complete and fundamental change in our way of life.

The people of Bridgeton have returned the Independent Labour Party Candidate in every election since 1922; I am confident they will not fail the cause of Socialism now.

## Ten Years Ago

From Peace News, January 26, 1940

We are used now to church leaders who support the war, and who say that pacifists are in error. It is still something of a novelty for a bishop to carry his views to the point of blaming pacifists for the war. Let that be what the Bishop of Grantham, Dr. Markham, did when preaching at the ceremony of lodging regimental colours at Lincoln Cathedral on the Sunday before last.

Following were the results (published in the News Chronicle) of a poll on the question: "Would you like to see the RAF bombing enemy military objectives, even if it means that the Germans would bomb back?"

"Yes"	52 per cent.
"No"	41 per cent.
"Don't know"	7 per cent.

## Notes for your Diary

1. Send notices to arrive not later than Monday.

2. Include: Date, TOWN, Time, Place (hall, street); nature of event; speakers, organisers (and secretary's address)—preferably in that order and style.

**Friday, January 27**  
LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m. 8 Endsleigh Gardens, Audrey Boorne on "A Tramp Abroad"; Central London PPU.

**Saturday, January 28**  
LONDON, W.C.1: 2 p.m. Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street; Meeting of the Non-Violence Group formed at the Steps to Peace Conference"; Secretary: Lewis, The Manse, Brill Aylesbury; All interested welcome: PPU.

LONDON, W.C.1: 2 p.m. Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street; Meeting of the Steps and Letters Group formed at the Steps to Peace Conference"; Secretary: Douglas Clark, Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street; All interested welcome: PPU.

**LEADS: 3 p.m. Carlton Hill Friends' House, Woodhouse Lane (behind PPU); Quarterly Meeting of Yorkshire PPU followed by discussion on "The Church and the General Election"; Organiser: Albert Leaper; Poolside tea: PPU.**

**Sunday, January 29**  
DUNDEE: 2.30 p.m. Unitarian Church, Mid Street; Open discussion; Miss Watson on "The Way to World Peace"; World Parliament Party.

**Monday, January 30**  
LONDON, N.W.1: 7.30 p.m. 250 Camden Road, "The War and the World"; Youth House, Camden Road (opposite Athenaeum); Audrey Boorne on "Journey through Czechoslovakia"; Islington PPU.

**Tuesday, January 31**  
BIRMINGHAM: 7.15 p.m. Dick Sheppard House, 66 Holloway Head; discussion on "Political and Arts Commissions of the Peace Conference"; West Midlands Area: PPU.

**Wednesday, February 1**  
LONDON, E.12: 8 p.m. Manor Park Public Library, Romford Road; Stuart Morris on the "Election and World Peace"; Chairman: Rev. Norman Motley; Secretary: For and PPU.

**STOCKPORT: 7.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Highgate; Speaker: L. L. Harris; Organising Secretary Council of Friends and Jews; Chairman: Rev. P. P. Public Meeting: No Conscription Council.**

**Thursday, February 2**  
COVENTRY: 7.30 p.m. 3 South Avenue, Park; Rev. Basil Cozens; All Friends invited: PPU.

**HARRY GARDINER** was adopted as prospective Pacifist Scottish Nationalist candidate for Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire at a meeting in Edinburgh last week.

He is being supported by members of the Peace Pledge Union and unattached Scottish Nationalist supporters in his campaign against Mr. Arthur Woodburn, Secretary of State for Scotland, Labour, and Conservative and Liberal candidates.

Commenting on Harry Gardiner's adoption, the Falkirk Mail recalled the previous pacifist fight for this seat during the War when over 1,000 votes were polled by Andrew Stewart:

"The Pacifists' choice, Mr. Andrew Stewart, then assistant editor of a London publication Peace News shocked the electorate by announcing that he would oppose Mr. Arthur Woodburn, after the Liberals and Conservatives had mutually agreed to allow Mr. Woodburn to be returned unopposed."

The small minority group are working under a heavy financial handicap, and have not yet raised the deposit money. All contributions and offers of help, should be sent to Miss Mary Anderson, MA, The Peace Centre, 44 Frederick Street, Edinburgh.

## JAPAN JOURNEY

Floyd Schmoie will continue his report from Hiroshima next week.

THE first party of European delegates to return from India arrived in London last week on their way to their respective countries and were given a reception by the Friends' Peace Committee.

While most of them thought their experience was as yet too near to be clarified, all expressed to some degree the experience of Yyrola Kalinen of Finland who said, "I feel I am not the same man."

Richard Gregg (USA) was convinced that henceforth Gandhi's ideas would be more influential in the countries from which the delegates came. They had increased their knowledge of what those ideas meant. They knew, with increased understanding, the importance of Gandhi's insistence that they had to build a new society from the ground up, beginning with the children and a new kind of education, so as to reach the roots of civilisation.

Dr. Walter Zander (Germany and Britain) felt he must warn people not to court disillusionment by over-estimating the immediate influence of Gandhi's teaching on Indian public affairs. The test had been India's relations with Pakistan, and the Indian Government had repudiated Gandhi's advice and principles.

As against that, however, there was the undoubted influence of Gandhi's teaching on

AN intensive propaganda campaign has been planned by the Election Campaign Committee supporting Fred Barton, ILP and PPU candidate for Newcastle Central, in the forthcoming General Election.

The committee comprises members of the Peace Pledge Union, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and Commonwealth Party branches in Newcastle.

The following committee rooms will be open from 7 p.m. each evening on and after Jan. 30.

ILP Main Committee Rooms, 195, Scotswood Road, Newcastle 4.

Newcastle East ILP Hall, 157 (Back) Shields Road, Newcastle 6.

Commonwealth Bookshop, 54 Blackett Street, Newcastle 1 (open during all shop hours).

All the rooms will be open all day for the last 10 days of the Campaign.

Tom Lang, Secretary of the Newcastle War Resisters' Group (PPU) writes:

"Our loudspeaker vans touring the busy shopping centre in the heart of the constituency are likely to take the pacifist message to the ears of many besides those living in the constituency. Public meetings planned include one on Feb. 12, to be addressed by Stuart Morris, who will state the case against conscription on behalf of the No-Conscription Council.

"This excellent opportunity for spreading the message of pacifist-internationalist socialism will cost much money and indivi-

## BACK FROM INDIA

Delegates to World Pacifist Conference give their impressions

a small number of young people, and that was a source of hope.

Heinz Kraschutski said that one of his deepest impressions was that the Conference was truly international. They were not there as representatives of their nations but of a common humanity.

One newspaper said nothing could come out of it because the delegates had no government behind them. But that was its potential strength.

They all knew what happened when representatives of Governments held conferences: they fixed the date of the next conference.

Such affairs were always futile because none could act as an individual; discussions were limited by official instructions. But in India they were all free and discussions were unlimited.

Further, here at last was a world conference where the European races were not predominant. Usually, "world conferences" were 95 per cent Europeans and Americans; but because there was one Chinese, one Indian and one Negro present, people would say, "All the world is represented here." This time the world really was represented.

## UP AND DOING

Next week's NO CONSCRIPTION WEEK issue of PN will be another of those special eight-page issues of outstanding value for widespread distribution.

ETHEL MANNIN, DR. KATHLEEN LONSDALE, JAMES H. HUDSON MP, and FENNER BROCKWAY are amongst the distinguished contributors, with an attractive array of cartoons, pictures and other features. Readers and groups can support No Conscription Week by:

1. Selling this special number at election meetings and shopping centres (special poster END CONSCRIPTION NOW available free)
2. Posting copies to local v.i.ps.
3. Approaching all anti-conscriptionists for a regular order.

PLEASE WRITE NOW for your extra copies, half price at 1s. 6d. dozen (postage 3d.) and introductory leaflets free of charge.

Circulation last week: 9,700.

dual effort. We are out to win this seat, not just to save the deposit! Will you kindly send a donation to PPU Election Fund (Fred Barton), Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1.

If you can help in any other way (including loan of car), please write to the Election Agent, Jack Graham, 7 Poplar Place, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne 3.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY  
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TERMS: Cash with order, 3d. per word, minimum 2s. 6d. (Box No. 6d. extra). Please don't send stamps in payment, except for odd pence. Maximum length: 50 words. Address for Box No. replies: Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4.

When corresponding with PN about an advertisement, quote its first words, classification, and date.

We reserve the right to hold over advertisements and to limit the frequency of continuing advertisements.

### MEETINGS

**WEIGH HOUSE Church, Duke Street, W.1. (Bond St. Tube). Sunday evenings at 7. The Gospel of Peace! Social hour follows.**

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m. 6 Endsleigh Gardens; Jan. 27, Audrey Boorne: "A Tramp Abroad"; Feb. 10, Deana Levin: "Education and Freedom"; Feb. 17, Orwell Blackston: "Readings from my Works"; Central London PPU.

### ACCOMMODATION

**DERBYSHIRE HILLS.** Vegetarian Guest House. Rest and comfort amid beautiful scenery. Arthur and Catherine Ludlow. The Briars, Crich, Near Matlock. Tel: Ambergate 44.

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**GENTLEMAN, MIDDLE-AGED,** shortly guest/private boarder in pacifist house, requires quiet accommodation as paying Own piano and wardrobe. Surrey preferred, other areas considered; permanency likely. Box 124.

**GRAMMAR SCHOOL** master about to marry requires unfurnished flat, North London. Phone PAL 6386.

**HIGHFIELD VEGETARIAN** Guest House, Keswick, offers beautiful views, comfort and friendly atmosphere. Conferences. Parties catered for. Write Anne Horner, Beatrice Farnsworth, Tel 508.

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### FOR SALE & WANTED

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**THE LATEST** books, pamphlets and periodicals (whether or not reviewed in Peace News) are always available from your own Booksellers, Housmans Bookshop, 3 Blackstock Road, N.4. Send s.a.e. for latest list.

### LITERATURE, &c.

**HEART PHANTASIES.** A beautiful collection of Eastern poetry and prose by Mirza Ahmad Sohrab. 121 pages, 6s. post paid. Caravan of England (P), Flat 16, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

**QUAKERISM** Information and Literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London.

### PERSONAL

**MARRIAGE BUREAU** offers unrivalled personal service. Details free—Mary Blair (room 59), 147 Holborn, E.C.1.

**SINGLE LADY,** 39, Pacifist, interested home life and children, education, good literature, plays, films, music, nature study, desires contact sincere man with similar tastes. Box 126.

**YOUNG MAN** shortly commencing building and decorating business would welcome inquiries from readers. Any tradesmen interested please write. Parsons, 339 Kennington Road, S.E.11.

### SITUATIONS VACANT

Situations are available only to applicants excepted from the Control of Engagements Order, 1947, No. 2021.

**PEACE NEWS** urgently requires full time assistant in general office. Junior preferred, but other applicants invited. Shorthand typing an advantage. Please send particulars to the Manager, Peace News, Ltd., 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

**VOLUNTARY HELPERS** urgently needed at Peace News office, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays to Fridays—up to 9.30 p.m. Wednesday evenings. No special experience necessary. 1 minute Finabury Park Station, 3 Blackstock Road (above Fish & Cook, Stationers), N.4.—or phone STAmford Hill 2262-4.

**VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY** wanted for typing and general office work on public information scheme for a World outlook. A great opportunity for service. Please give times available, mentioning skills (typing, filing, etc.) to Mervyn Taggart, Meadoway, 2847. Messages can be left: World Government House, 4 Rotherwick Road, Golders Green, N.W.11.

### SITUATIONS AND WORK WANTED

**EULALIA HORNIMAN, M.A., T.D.,** English, French, German, Spanish. Also literature; Coaching. 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

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### IN MEMORIAM

**IN MEMORY** of Miss E. M. Bush (Yem), fearless worker for Peace and beloved friend.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**WAR RESISTERS' International** welcomes gifts of foreign stamps and undamaged air mail covers. Please send to WRI, Lansbury House, 88 Park Avenue, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex.

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Essential Reading for Active Pacifists

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P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS  
Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., W.C.1



MAKE THIS NUMBER  
50 BY FEB. 4  
(see below)

15

## CONSCRIPTION MUST GO

**D**ID you notice newspaper reports recently of a certain exercise which "National Service" men had to undergo?

They had to make their way from Winchester to Whipsnade without money, get into the Zoo without paying, and take a hair from the tallest giraffe, which you will notice, includes the performance of acts which would bring you or me into the Magistrates' Court. It was called, with an appropriateness and frankness not always seen in military matters: "Lunatics at Large."

This is the sort of thing for which young men are being taken away from their homes, their churches, clubs, jobs.

This is what they are condemned to—not just by the War Office, but by the man on the 8.20 who talks glibly about conscription being good for character and discipline.

This is the reality behind the claim that a young man owes service to his country. What blessings the future holds if this rotten system is allowed to continue indefinitely until all the nation's men have been through this sort of thing. What hope is there that pacifist propaganda will ever take root in such minds?

Conscription has got to go. For the sake of everything that is decent in the human spirit; for the sake of humanity and peace; because it leads to bad things and is bad itself, conscription must go! That is the message of the No Conscription Week, Feb. 4 to 11.

### London Conference

On the first afternoon of the week—Saturday, Feb. 4—there is to be a delegate conference in London, arranged by the London branch of the NCC. Several motions have been tabled. Claud Colman will chair, and amongst those speaking to motions will be Sybil Morrison, Albert Belden, Denis Hayes. Visitors will be welcomed. All enquiries about this conference should go to the London Branch Secretary, Eden Peacock (address below).

And don't forget: Holborn Hall, Feb. 7, at 7.30: The Churches Challenge Conscription.

The No Conscription Council (Kings Cross Missions Buildings, Crestfield Street, London, W.C.1) has not yet been flooded with requests for free leaflets, posters, handbills, pamphlets, but is hoping to be. And there is also a list of suggestions for election-time activity. Will you ask for a copy?

The "Week" will open on Feb. 4 with a poster parade through the West End of London, leaving Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1., at 10.30 a.m.

Volunteers for this demonstration should send their names to one of the co-operating organisations listed below. The total number of names received will be published at the top of this column each week.

Eden Peacock, Hon. Sec., London Branch No Conscription Council, 44 Millbank, S.W.1.

Leslie Tarlton, Secretary, London Union, Fellowship of Reconciliation, 38 Gordon Square, W.C.1.

Molly Barlex, Hon. Organiser, London Area, Peace Pledge Union, 219 Croydon Road, Beckenham, Kent.

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K. Mary Barr, 40s.

### PATHS TO UTOPIA

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## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Punish war propagandists

**I**N the famous Paulskirche, in Frankfurt, Germany, scene of several historical meetings, a large number of members of several organisations and parties met recently to demand from the newly formed German Government the fulfilment of the following programme:

1. Passing of a Bill regarding the punishment of any type of war propaganda, incitement against other peoples in schools, Press, broadcasting and films.
2. Adoption of regulations to oblige all teachers to educate all pupils in the spirit of peaceful understanding.
3. Establishment of a Peace Settlement of 100 houses for disabled soldiers.

The Resolution was moved by the Organisation of Disabled Soldiers and Dependents of War Victims in Hessen.

### ARGENTINE PACIFIST JOURNAL'S NEW EDITOR

**D**R. JUAN LAZARTE, President and founder of the Argentine Pacifist Association, is the new editor-in-chief of *Pacifismo*, the vigorous Argentine pacifist monthly.

Born in 1892, he studied medicine in the University of Buenos Aires and Natural Science in the University of La Plata, later becoming Professor of Biology in the National Teachers' Training College.

Dr. Lazarte has always been active in the Trade Union movement and the Workers' Educational Association. He attempted to form a pacifist group after World War I, finally founding the APA in 1946. He is a prolific writer, editor and author in the fields of social medicine and education and has the reputation of a cultured, energetic, bold and militant pacifist.

The former editor of *Pacifismo*, Santiago Savary will continue to serve the paper as General Secretary of the APA.

### WORLD PACIFIST MEETING

In quoting from the Indian Press on Dec. 9, Peace News stated that the World Pacifist Meeting was being attended by delegates from 89 countries. The figure should have read 89 delegates from 34 countries.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Pacifism and Politics

**P**RESUMABLY the majority of readers of Peace News will feel they should vote Labour at the coming election. This may be all right, as far as it goes, but should pacifists forget that it was a Labour government which sanctioned Conscription as a permanent institution, or that this Government's methods of compulsion under various forms of "planning" (e.g. the National Health Scheme, and "direction of labour") are in absolute conflict with the principles of true pacifism, as is also the class-hatred fostered by many Communists and Labour supporters?

Alternatively, it seems certain that the Conservative Party, under its inevitable leader, would support war against the latest "public enemy" as, once again, "regrettably necessary."

There should be a party combining the best and rejecting the worst of both the opposing parties, but this is too much to hope for, and the fact remains that as a potential voter the pacifist who is an absolutist in the cause of true freedom and true progress is in an almost impossible position.

DALLAS KENMARE

Lynhurst Hill,  
Barnt Green,  
Worcestershire.

Correspondence on this subject will be concluded next week.

### A matter of health

**I**N the debate on vegetarians v. carnivores it is nowhere mentioned that plants also are sentient beings. Some people think so, and who can assert the contrary? Vegetarians see no objection to cutting off a cabbage's head so that the plant dies... unless they eat, exclusively, fruits and grains (without destroying the plant) they cannot live without killing.

It is purely a personal estimation that one being is sentient the other not. Besides, do they never take animal life? Do they object to killing flies? And what of rats—do vegetarians tolerate them in swarms? Every being thrives at the expense of other lives...

Killing in order to live is a force of Nature, towards which man differs from animals in that he is almost the only one who kills his own kin...

Should he cease to behave worse than animals by resorting to homicide, he might eventually evolve harmless ways of killing for his food.

To be a vegetarian or otherwise is only a matter of health. A vegetarian diet suits some and not others... To insist that pacifists all eat alike, just because they are pacifists, is cranky. And I agree with Ethel Mannin that cranks endanger pacifism.

FRANCOISE DELISLE

62 Friern Park,  
North Finchley, N.12.

### German visitors go to school in Britain

**F**OR the second time within six months Mansfield Peace Group, which consists of PPU, MPF and FoK members together with other pacifists, is sponsoring a visit by European children, brought to Britain through International Help for Children.

Last summer, 15 French children spent two months in the district, and enjoyed outings arranged by the Group and other organisations whose sympathies were enlisted. Now, nine German youngsters are spending a month in the homes of parents of scholars at Shirebrook Central Girls School, whose headmistress, Miss E. A. Fairburn, is a member of Mansfield Peace Group. Children at the school organised various events to raise pocket money for their guests, and offers of hospitality exceeded the number of visitors.

The German children, whose ages range from 9 to 15 years, are getting a further insight into the lives of British youngsters as they are attending most days at school where they have their midday meal.

### ALTERNATIVE SERVICE IN NORWAY

**I**N Norway conscientious objection to military service was legally recognised as early as 1925. On appealing successfully to the Law Courts an objector could secure exemption from conscription. And since 1937 it has been possible for all men called up for military service to be assigned to civilian work, under control of civil authorities, instead of being incorporated in the army.

Five Norwegian organisations (Temperance Youth League, Society of Friends, Peace Society and the Norwegian branches of the WRI and the WILPF) have jointly issued a pamphlet setting out the laws and regulations as they now stand. Anyone liable for military service can apply to the Department of Justice to be struck off the military register and placed on the list of civilian workers. Provided the Department is satisfied as to the genuineness of the case, the conscript will be assigned to "work which has no connection with military establishments or equipment, and is carried out under civilian control." The period of work may be 50 per cent. longer than that of a military conscript, but pay, living conditions, and family allowances are the same.

E.T.

### What! What!

**N**EVER heard of her before, but damn good letter that of Mrs. Ethyl Munings! Never heard of your paper, either. Peace News? Gad sir! Thought it was a joke. Shown me by pacifist who is a distant relative. Very distant, thank God! Non-smoker, non-drinker, non meat-eater. *Non compos*, if you ask me. Doesn't even swear! Proper pansy. Must admit he's got something all the same and only wish he'd take Miss Manner's advice. Do him world of good to get tight. Might become human. Same with all these pacifists. Oughtn't to be sent down mines if they refuse to be men. Slaughterhouse is their place. Knock the squeamishness out of 'em. Sight, smell, and feel of blood. Do 'em good to slit pigs' throats. No bigger coward than a pig. Think it was a pacifist, to hear it squeal. Takes frisking lambs to die gladly for their country and give Mrs. Mennin her luscious lamb chops. Gad sir! More power to her jawbones!

DAVID ROBERTS-BLIMP,

Colonel, Queens' Cavalry Corps.  
64 Fitzjohn's Avenue, N.W.3.

PS.—Damn shame they kill and eat our horses, though! Lot of cannibals!

### Meat v. Veg.

**A**LTHOUGH I enjoyed her recent book on Germany, I couldn't agree less than I do with Ethel Mannin on vegetarianism. There is not too much sentimental identifying of the emotions of animals with those of humans, but far too little. If more people identified themselves with the suffering of animals, then vivisection, the keeping of birds and wild animals in cages and the tortures inflicted on animals to make them do senseless tricks in circuses would be an impossibility. Cruelty to animals has vastly increased since the war.

Palm Cottage, R. M. CLARKE  
Dittisham, Devon.

### Hush, Hush

**O**NE or two newspapers have been good enough to print an occasional letter from me, even when the letter is pacifist in tone.

But there is one fact which, if I include it in a letter, ensures non-publication. It is, that "defence" preparations cost each family, on average, about 25s. per week.

Why this reticence? Surely every householder should rejoice to know that so much of his money is so well spent. Indeed, he should look forward joyously to yet another "finest hour," which, judging by its monetary cost should be even finer than the last one.

TOM SULLIVAN

3 Knockbreda Park,  
Belfast.

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## Sybil Morrison's CAMPAIGN COLUMN

*The advice of British scientists may be sought on the question as to whether the United States should launch a project to develop a hydrogen bomb... Opinion is divided but the military view is that moral considerations aside, the United States cannot afford to lag in the development of such a weapon. The Russians, it is pointed out, will have no moral scruples.*

—Daily Telegraph, Jan. 23, 1950

*He who will not reason is a bigot;  
He who cannot is a fool; and he  
Who dares not, is a slave.*

—Byron

**I**T is now known that a new explosive, 1,000 times greater in power than the atom bomb, has been discovered by the USA.

It would be capable of devastating at one blast an area of more than 100 square miles, which means that one bomb would be sufficient to demolish the whole of London.

The accusation that Russia, if she had the secret of this new bomb, would have no moral scruples about using it, comes strangely from the country which, apparently, had no moral scruples about the use of the atom bomb, and which in any case, openly states that moral considerations are set aside for the sake of expediency.

To the ordinary reasoner, from either the West or the East, it would appear that those who decided to use the atom bomb and justify it on the grounds of expediency are unlikely to have any moral scruples about the hydrogen bomb.

The slight stirrings of conscience which followed upon the dropping of the atom bomb were quickly quieted by the argument that American and British lives were saved by its use.

Now that boomerang is rushing back to its original firing base, it is obvious that Russia is perfectly capable of using exactly the same argument on the grounds that her nationals are threatened by the stockpile which the USA refuses to destroy.

### Where the threat comes from

Russia, probably, would have no more scruples than we had in 1945 about using a new discovery in war, but that is not to say that they are threatening the world with it at this moment.

The threat would seem to come from the USA both in its use of the atom bomb without consultation, refusal to share the secret, and subsequent refusal to abolish its stockpile.

The suggested talks between Truman and Stalin would be unlikely to have much resemblance to peace talks, if they are only to be undertaken when the U.S. is able to announce to the world that they have gone one better than the atom bomb and are again ahead in the atomic arms race.

It is incredible that the threats and counter threats of greater and more devastating weapons should still be the only kind of bargaining that statesmen can find to use in negotiations with other nations.

Though the armaments being built up in the present race are so much more terrifying than the world has ever before known, the pattern of procedure seems to be unaltered.

### Disaster or...

In spite of the fact that it has been proved over and over again that the accumulation of immense armaments does not keep the peace, statesmen are so bankrupt of any ideas, let alone any moral principles that they go blindly on upon the same course which has brought the disaster of war more than once already.

In war statesmen dare not reason, and ordinary people are not allowed to; but there is still time to reason from cause to effect; to accept responsibility for the use of the atom bomb; to discard the out-worn theory that great armaments keep the peace, and to prepare to approach Russia not with threats of a "bigger and better" bomb but with real peace proposals. Total disarmament is the only reasonable, and the only moral answer to the atom-hydrogen armaments race.

### INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY SCOTTISH DIVISIONAL CONFERENCE

ST. ANDREW'S (MID SUITE) HALLS

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, FEB. 4-5, 1950

Public Sessions: Saturday: 2.0 p.m.—4.30 p.m.

Sunday: 11.30 a.m.—1.0 p.m.

2.0 p.m.—5.0 p.m.

### SOCIAL EVENING FOR DELEGATES AND FRIENDS

SATURDAY, FEB. 4, 1950

Tickets 3s. Can be obtained from:

ILP Office, 43 Dundas Street, Glasgow, C.I.

### PUBLIC MEETING

SUNDAY, FEB. 5, 1950, 7.00 p.m.

Speakers: Councillor Annie Maxton, Candidate

Robert Duncan, Prospective Candidate

Bridgeton, Prospective Candidate

James Graham, Prospective Candidate

Shettleston, Prospective Candidate

Chairman: James W. Taylor.